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## The BG News May 19, 2004

Bowling Green State University

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**MAC CHAMPS**  
Women's softball wins  
MAC Championship;  
PAGE 3

Bowling Green State University

# BG NEWS

A daily independent student press

WEDNESDAY

May 19,  
2004

....  
**MOSTLY SUNNY**  
HIGH: 74 | LOW: 62

www.bgnews.com  
VOLUME 98 ISSUE 136

## Construction hurts business

**Matt Hawkins**  
STAFF REPORTER

If you were brave enough to venture onto East Wooster Street last week, you were probably all too familiar with seeing the "Road Closed" signs near the CSX railroad tracks. Chances are the side streets became familiar as well.

But what you might not realize is that railroad construction affected some of the businesses along East Wooster Street. Chip Myles, owner of both Myles Pizza Pub and Myles Dairy Queen, which are both located on the closed section of the road, said he saw his sales drop.

"During the day, it just devoured our business," said Myles. "There's that little section of road where they blocked off the traffic from turning in and sometimes our driveways were blocked with construction, which makes it difficult for people to get in and out and it's really hurt us a

lot this week."

Myles said that up until last week, construction on Wooster St. had been going smoothly, and he didn't see a noticeable problem in the dropping of any sales, but with the road being closed, there has not been an accessible entrance into Myles Pizza enabling customers to get into the parking lot smoothly.

"It has definitely hurt Myles Pizza the most because we're more land blocked over there," Myles said.

Another business affected by the road closing is The Shed, which is located in between Myles Pizza and Myles Dairy Queen. Joshua Burnett, store manager of The Shed said that while it hasn't necessarily stopped his customers from parking with the use of side streets, it

has eliminated the occasional impulse buyer.

"Business has slowed down a bit because we don't get as much walk through traffic; not as much impulse of people driving by or walking by and deciding to come into The Shed," Burnett said. "Even though it's usually slower in the summertime, it's a lot slower than it was last year at this time, so it's obviously affected us."

Ché Walters, general manager of W.G. Grinders which is on the corner of East Wooster Street and Thurstin Avenue, said he has tried to make the best of a negative situation, while luring some of the workers in on lunch breaks.

"I went down and gave [construction workers] all \$1 off coupons and stuff like that," Walters said. "My philosophy is you've got to turn the negatives into positives."

Walters said despite the lack of sales, the summer is always slower anyways since most students go back home.

"For me I think I'm down a



Mike Metzger BG News

**TROUGH TIME:** Workers dig trenches on Wooster near Thurstin Avenue. Construction has had a negative effect on some local businesses.

thousand bucks, about a couple hundred a day," Walters said. "But I think I'd be about the same on sales this week."

However, Myles said even without the students, the construction

CONSTRUCTION, PAGE 2



Ben Swanger BG News

**SOARING:** Offenhour undergoes external renovations.

## Summer improvements start

**By Mandy Lind**  
REPORTER

The sounds of hammers, saws and drills ring throughout Bowling Green State University campus as construction begins to get underway at a few of the University's residence halls.

Interior renovations to Offenhour, Kohl, Rodgers and Harshman are part of an extensive list of improvements being

made to housing and other campus facilities this summer.

"In Offenhour we are renovating the bathrooms, upgrading the plumbing and putting in operable windows in all sides. We are finishing up the East tower to match the West," said Tim Carney, assistant director for Residence Life.

Summer renovations push Offenhour into the second

phase of construction, which has been part of a long-range plan that is expected to be completed in summer 2005.

Other scheduled improvements this summer will include data and telecommunications upgrades in both Kohl and Offenhour as well as electrical upgrades and computer lab improvements in Rodgers Hall. These renovations, Carney says,

are badly needed.

"A lot of these buildings need to be renovated because some of them were built prior to 1960, and it's been over 40 years since they have seen improvements," Carney said.

According to Carney the greatest improvements will be the data

IMPROVEMENTS, PAGE 2

*"I think it is our job as students to band together and with one solid voice go down to Columbus and show them just how important higher education is, and how these cuts affect the state of Ohio."*

ALEX WRIGHT, USG PRESIDENT

## Campus reacts to tuition

**Matt Clark**  
REPORTER

As the first summer session began on Monday, students, faculty, and staff had a lot to talk about. The Bowling Green trustees' decision to raise tuition for main-campus students by 9 percent for the academic year 2004-05 generated a plethora of reactions.

The increase in tuition will cost main-campus undergraduate students as much as \$332 more per semester. It will cost graduate students \$427 more per semester.

"Well, obviously, I'm not happy," Alex Wright, president of the Undergraduate Student Government and chair of the Coalition against Rising Tuition (CART) said. "You won't find a student that says they're happy about the tuition increase."

The University budget

administrators did keep the increase below the 9.9 percent maximum allowed by the state.

As Wright pointed out in a short telephone interview, the decision to keep the tuition increase below the maximum confirms that the budget administrators recognize increases are a problem, and are working towards balancing education and affordability.

One-third of the increase will go towards 15 percent more funding for need-based financial aid, and improved funding for on campus technology services.

"I think it's kind of ridiculous," Casey Toronto, a senior majoring in Spanish education, said, reacting to the tuition increase. "They've increased it a bunch the past couple of years, but I'm getting less financial aid. I don't see any of the improvements.

I'm probably going to have to get a different job and work more hours."

The increase coincides with a 2004-05 state budget that projects 3.5 percent fewer funds than last year's budget. The state has cut funding by over \$1000 per-student since 2000.

"It is discouraging to see that the statehouse doesn't recognize how vital and important higher education is," Wright said. "I think it is our job as students to band together and with one solid voice go down to Columbus and show them just how important higher education is, and how these cuts affect the state of Ohio."

The increase will also offset rising utility, health care, and technology costs, according to a

TUITION, PAGE 2

## Summer flick arrives

**Michael Siebenaler**  
STAFF REVIEWER

Director Wolfgang Petersen (The Perfect Storm, Air Force One) brings this amazing epic to the big screen with high profile stars, countless extras and huge settings filmed in Malta, the UK and Morocco...too bad the plot embellishments and creative licenses don't create a particularly strong experience overall.

You may know the classic tale, but here's the basic story to get you started... (deep breath) Prince Paris of Troy, played by Orlando Bloom, steals away the Spartan Queen Helen, played by Diane Kruger, which causes a problem because Troy and Sparta just made peace, so the Spartan King appeals to the greedy conqueror of Greece, Agamemnon, played by Brian Cox (X2, The Bourne Identity) to go to war against Troy... (whew). Paris needs the

support of his brother Hector, played by Eric Bana (The Hulk) and his father, Priam, King of Troy, played by

Peter O' Toole, to fend off the invading Greeks. Hector becomes an admirable character due to his leadership, honest heart and defense strategies, but then becomes the most sympathetic character when his wise advice is ignored, which jeopardizes his family.

By the way, Agamemnon owes a lot of his success to a certain warrior named Achilles, played by Brad Pitt.

Pitt. Achilles has a mercenary-like arrangement with Agamemnon but their straining relationship begins to produce conflict that weakens the Greek army. Pitt provides a solid performance on the physical side as he executes numerous exterior fighting



Murray Close AP Photo

FLICK, PAGE 6

### FOUR-DAY FORECAST

The four-day forecast is taken from weather.com

#### THURSDAY



T-Storms High: 78° Low: 54°

#### FRIDAY



T-Storms High: 71° Low: 60°

#### SATURDAY



T-Storms High: 81° Low: 64°

#### SUNDAY



Partly Cloudy High: 76° Low: 55°



# BG Grad named commissioner of OHSAA

By Nicole Delisio  
NEWS EDITOR

Many people determine their lifelong dreams based on criteria that satisfy their personal desires. For Dan Ross, adjunct professor of Educational Administration and Supervision, his dream involves teaching people the lessons of life.

Ross has served as an administrator in Ohio for over 30 years. After graduating from Ohio Dominican University with bachelor's degrees in Political Science and History in 1971, Ross earned his Master's Degree in guidance and counseling from Xavier University in 1973. He served as an instructor at the University en

route to completing his doctoral degree in Educational Administration and Supervision in 1983.

Along with holding teaching positions, Ross has worked as a Counselor, Production Supervisor and Principal for six school systems. He became superintendent of Patrick Henry Local Schools in 1983, before holding the same position for Pickerington Local Schools, and currently Avon Lake City Schools.

Ross found out May 13 that he will not continue his administrative career next year, and will take over reigns as Commissioner of the Ohio High School Athletic Association instead.

According to Rosemary Smith, administrative secretary to the business manager of Pickerington Local Schools, Ross will bring compassion and dedication to the OHSAA.

"They will get the benefit of his devotion to athletics and his love of students," Smith said. "If there is a problem he will find a solution to fix it."

For Ross, his new position will allow him to fulfill his lifelong goals. He said he believes athletics teach people things such as cooperation, camaraderie and teamwork.

"I think you can learn a lot from athletics that helps you learn a lot of life lessons," Ross

said.

Ross has had plenty of opportunities to teach those lessons to athletes. He officiated basketball, baseball and volleyball for 20 years, during which he worked five boys state basketball tournaments. His superintendent positions have enabled him to attend weekly sporting events. He said he believes those experiences allowed him to get where he is today.

"Over a lot of years I've been responsible for entire school programs. Part of that has been the athletic programs. The opportunity to gain knowledge by working in these programs throughout the years has certainly helped

to open the door for this position," Ross said.

The humility Ross shows toward others may have also prepared him to become Commissioner of the OHSAA. According to Ken Baker, principal of Cincinnati Wyoming High School, Ross has always shown an undaunted respect for community members.

Baker, a University graduate, was principal of Pickerington High School while Ross was superintendent of the district. He has been well aware of Ross' compassionate personality throughout their 20 year friendship.

"He personalized everything," ROSS, PAGE 6

Baker said about Ross's character traits during the time they worked in Pickerington. "Everyone was important to Dan. It didn't matter if you were the high school principal, or a bus driver. It was a large district, and he knew teachers, students and parents. Everyone knew Dr. Ross. He was a person, and not just the position."

In particular, Ross cares a lot about the success of students. This children first philosophy may best be represented by the respect students have for him. He recently attended the prom for

## Increase hits U. students

TUITION, FROM PAGE 1

University press release statement by Dr. Christopher Dalton, senior vice president for finance and administration.

Some University employees were stunned to learn they will receive a 3 percent raise and the possibility of another, smaller, merit-based raise, provided by the new budget.

"We have to stay competitive," Wright said. Last year, our faculty pay increase was relatively low. This year it is a little more on par with everybody else."

"I was quite surprised," Dr. Dennis Hale, journalism professor, said. "I was expecting either no raise this year, or possibly 2 percent at most."

"The University is doing the best they can to make education affordable and still be fiscally responsible," Wright said, commending the board's decision to increase employee's pay and student's financial aid.

In order to balance the budget, the University will be making \$4 million in permanent cuts from personnel budgets.

Most of these reductions will remove vacant positions that have been on hiatus since the University's hiring freeze went into effect.

## Construction will revitalize older residence halls at U.

IMPROVEMENTS, FROM PAGE 1

and telecommunications upgrades made in Offenbauer and Kohl hall.

"We are learning from a facility stand point that internet and data is by far now a primary service and people depend on it today and that definitely wasn't the case when these buildings were built 10 to 40 years ago," Carney said.

These improvements have become an economic commitment to the University, with some individual projects cost-

ing over \$5 million, according to the University's Design and Construction website.

Renovations are being funded by a \$13 million bond as well as through other secondary sources says Carney.

He assures that the prices of these renovations will not creep into student fees.

"There is nothing directly charged to the student. We are capable of refinancing a lot of our debt. When we did borrow the \$13 million students saw no increase," Carney said.

Renovations are scheduled to

end August 1. However, Carney says workers will have some leeway since most students do not come back until a week before the start of the fall semester.

Carney says the ultimate goal of the renovations is to provide top facilities for Bowling Green students.

"If you compare facilities like Kohl Hall to a building that was built during the same time frame on another campus I'd say we're doing pretty well, better off than most," Carney said.

## Wooster work challenges businesses

CONSTRUCTION, FROM PAGE 1

has made his businesses suffer regardless. Myles said his sales are sometimes even busier in the summertime since people have more free time and get outside more frequently.

"Business doesn't drop that much when the students leave because you still have the local population," Myles said. "You

have summer activities and ballgames, which picks up the slack."

Myles also said that he doesn't even think the construction on East Wooster Street is even necessary to begin with. He said it's a good idea to have wider roads closer off I-75, but not through all of Bowling Green.

"I don't see a problem with maintaining a nice town atmos-

phere as opposed to putting a major highway down the middle of Wooster Street," Myles said. "It's fine to clean up the sidewalks, and get new curbs and all that stuff. Its going to look nicer, but it just seems like cutting off the front of the university and cutting off the front of the homes just takes away with the beauty from the area."

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## Friday

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## Saturday

May 22  
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Mich. at Stellar Field at 1 pm

## Sunday

May 23  
Baseball takes on Western  
Mich. at Stellar Field at 1 pm

BG NEWS  
BRIEFINGPlayer shines in and  
out of classroom

BG redshirt-junior Craig Pickrel was named to the men's golf Academic All-MAC team on May 13. It is Pickrel's second year in a row receiving the honor as he is maintaining a 3.84 grade-point-average in architectural design. The honor is given to student athletes who excel in athletics and academics, where the student must have at least a 3.20 cumulative GPA and participated in at least 50 percent of the team's contests. Pickrel also finished tied for 19th place at the MAC Championships with a 54-hole score of 225.

## Softball awards

Sophomore Gina Rango was named to the All-MAC First Team for the second consecutive year on May 12. Sophomores Lindsay Heimrich and Liz Vrbel, along with freshman Jeanine Baca earned All-MAC Second Team honors and Jody Johnson won MAC tournament MVP.

## Warnock honored

Jeff Warnock, a junior on the BG baseball team, has been named to the 2004 Academic All-District IV University Division Baseball Second Team. Warnock has the highest GPA on the team with a 3.94. He is the first Falcon baseball player to receive this award since Scott Dukate in 2001.



## SPORTS

WEDNESDAY

May 19,  
2004

www.bgnews.com/sports

BOWLING GREEN STATE UNIVERSITY

## Falcons win first ever MAC title

By Ryan Autullo  
REPORTER

It was easy as 1-2-3....4. However, things couldn't have been more complex. The Falcons were forced to defeat the top four seeds in order, ultimately ending in a pair of victories over Miami to bring home the school's first MAC tournament crown since 1993. To make matters even tougher, the orange and brown had to battle back through the consolation bracket after an opening round 3-0 loss to Western Michigan. The league's tournament took place May 13-16 at Firestone Stadium in Akron. In hindsight, Miami can be thanked for motivating BGSU to claw its way into the championship game. It was the Redhawks will to win in their opening round win over Ohio University that caught the attention of Falcon head coach Leigh Ross-Shaw.

"We didn't play well against Western Michigan. We were playing up and down just like all season long," Ross-Shaw said. "We stayed and watched Miami and they seemed inspired. We had a meeting at the hotel and I asked the team, why don't you want it like that? The girls then said, we're done with all this stuff, we have work to do."

Away to work they went.

Bowling Green topped #1 seed



Mike Metzger BG News

**CHAMPIONS AT LAST:** Members of the Lady Falcons softball team hoist the MAC Championship softball trophy overhead during the after game celebration. The Falcons defeated the top three seeds in the tournament and the fourth seed twice to win the six-team double elimination tournament held this past weekend at Firestone Stadium in Akron, Ohio.

Central Michigan, 3-0, in the first consolation round, followed by a 6-0 route of #2 Kent State.

Jody Johnson was on the hill for both victories, and every other game for that matter. Due to an injury to ace pitcher Liz Vrbel, Johnson was called on game after

game to stand in the circle.

"Liz went to the doctor on Wednesday and was told she shouldn't pitch because of a bad back," Ross-Shaw said. "Jody told me she was ready to do whatever we needed. Everyone in the stands was cheering for her

because of all the innings she had thrown. Her presence drew everyone to her."

Lindsay Heimrich's grand slam sparked a seven run sixth inning in BGSU's 8-6 victory over #3 Western Michigan. The sophomore also picked up the win on

the hill, going 4 2/3 innings in relief of Johnson. The win over the Broncos set the stage for the showdown with #4 Miami. With the Redhawks unbeaten in the double elimination tournament, BG would have to defeat them twice.

SOFTBALL, PAGE 5



Mike Metzger BG News

**SWINGING AWAY:** Eric Lawsom makes contact during last week's game against Oakland. He went 4-5 Sunday in the win over Toledo.

## Falcon baseball has eyes set on tourney

Matt Deighton  
SPORTS REPORTER

It took the Falcons three big innings to seal a victory over Toledo Sunday afternoon. The Falcons baseball team concluded their weekend series against UT, defeating the host Rockets in comfortable fashion, 15-5 at Scott Park.

BGSU recorded a six-run third inning, added on by consecutive four-run innings in the sixth and seventh to give them a cushioning lead heading into the final innings of the game.

"I thought we played at an outstanding level the

whole game," said BG head coach Danny Schmitz. "It was a big win and kept our playoff hopes alive."

Falcons' sluggers, second baseman Eric Lawson and third baseman Tyler Wasserman, had key performances in the win. Lawson went 4-5, scoring four runs and driving in three, and Wasserman went 3-4, scoring and driving in two.

Freshman starter Alan Brech carried the Falcons through seven innings, allowing just one run on five hits, with five strikeouts. Brech pitched four shutout innings before giving up the first

BASEBALL, PAGE 5

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## QUOTE UNQUOTE

*"Richard smuggled matches on to the island in a vial. He totally cheated!"*

"Survivor" contestant KATHY VAVRICK-O'BRIEN, talking about fellow competitor Richard Hatch.  
(New York Daily News)

www.bgnews.com/opinion

## OPINION

## Being responsible for war crimes

Nobody's perfect — not even the United States army.

We were shocked and appalled to see the photos taken at a prison in Iraq maintained by U. S. soldiers. The photos depict Iraqi prisoners being humiliated and abused.

Ironically, the prison — Abu Ghraib — was used by Saddam Hussein as a place of fear and dehumanization.

People wonder how the abuse by U. S. soldiers could have hap-

pened. The army constantly receives support from our citizens.

The soldiers at Abu Ghraib did not receive adequate training. The CBS news program "60 Minutes II" reported that the soldiers did not receive a copy of the Geneva Convention — a list of guidelines used to humanely treat prisoners of war.

This embarrassing moment was a humbling experience for the U. S. Army. However, our

notorious moment was suddenly overshadowed by Al-Qaeda's execution of U. S. soldier Nick Berg.

Al-Qaeda posted a video online showing Berg being beheaded by an Islamic militant soldier, the Baltimore Sun reported.

This execution was Al-Qaeda's response to the abuse at Abu Ghraib. The Islamic militants said they were avenging the events at the prison.

Their attempt to retaliate caused a reverse effect — instead of striking fear into the hearts of Americans, it instead motivated us to continue our war on terrorism.

In fact, Berg's death caused opposite sides — President Bush and presidential candidate John Kerry — to be united for a common cause.

Bush denounced the beheading, saying it showed "the true nature of the enemies of free-

dom." Kerry similarly said, "America stands together" against terrorists.

These events — the Iraqi prisoner abuse and the decapitation of Nick Berg — show how ugly war can become.

It can cause everyone to become frustrated with conflict overseas, and they begin to point fingers.

Are the soldiers to blame? Should we blame their commanding officer? What about

Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld? What about our commander-in-chief — President Bush?

Instead of playing "the blame game," maybe we should let the individuals take responsibility for their own actions.

As a result, all of their mistakes will be exposed and judged by their peers. Granted, it's wishful thinking, but it can happen.

Besides, it's the mature thing to do.

## Say hello to my humble opinion



SHAUN HAYES

Opinion Columnist

If you're reading this, it means that you're attending good old BGSU this summer — when the weather is hot, the books cost as much even though you use them less and, well, something is missing, isn't it?

Hmm ... what could it be?

Oh yeah, other people!

Truth be told, I've never attended classes at BGSU in the summer before, so I'm not sure how it's going to be. I imagine there will be fewer people when everyone spreads to the four winds after finishing up in the spring or maybe even graduating.

But really, it's not so bad. You can use this time at the University in the summer to do some very important things.

Take a few minutes out of your three-hour classes to get to know your professor a little better. He or she might remember it come exam time.

The bars aren't crowded; get to know your bartender too, because really, in Bowling Green, who is more important than someone who can give you booze for free?

You should go for a walk too, now that there aren't hundreds of college-kid driven cars zooming down the streets blasting that annoying "Topsy" song.

Maybe you could even adopt a squirrel. If not, you should at least be nice to them. After all, they do outnumber the people here this time of the year.

Regardless of what you do, all of you should feel proud of yourselves for giving up a few weeks in the summer to attend classes and improve yourselves. Good for you! If, like me, you're eager to graduate so you can get out of Bowling Green and go, well,

somewhere, then summer classes are a great chance to get ahead. You should be commended. Blue ribbons for everyone.

As I said before, I've never gone to summer classes before. In fact, there are many things at the University that are mysteries to me. For instance, I've never had the pleasure of living in a dorm. Other than the Union, I've never had the opportunity to eat food at any of the fine dining establishments that campus has to offer. There's the library; it's nine floors tall, but I've only been on just one of the floors. Who knows what all of those other floors have to offer. In fact, there are whole buildings I haven't even been in.

So then, you might be asking, "Why should we read the opinion of someone who doesn't even know much about this school?" Well, that's a good question.

The main thing I think I have to offer you, the reader, is a different perspective.

First of all, I'm almost 24 years old. In a perfect world, I would have graduated about two years ago. I know 24 doesn't seem that old, but compared to an 18-year-old just out of high school, it's a world of difference.

Secondly, I've been married to my lovely wife Erin for more than a year. If getting married does one thing, it drastically changes how you view a lot of things.

Lastly, I'm a veteran. Around this time last year I was enjoying the lovely climes of Iraq as a member of the United States Marine Corps Reserve. While perhaps surprisingly, this last quirk hasn't had as much of an effect as aging and getting married, it is a quirk nonetheless, and is definitely something that has mangled my perceptions about life somewhat.

I'm going to take great pains not to get embroiled in the

*"This sentence will be the only time, through summer and fall, that I will include the words 'Bush Administration' in my column."*

whole liberal vs. conservative and Christian vs. atheist banter that opinion columns seem to attract.

In fact, I will make this promise: this sentence will be the only time, through summer and fall, that I will include the words "Bush Administration" in my column.

So that's what I've got on the table. I promise to write about myself at some length here and in the future. And the last thing I would do is try to claim that I know everything. I'm not Jim Morrison or Socrates, so yes, there are concepts and ideas foreign even to me.

But one thing that I am going to do is try to write about things that I feel are important to me, and might be important to you, and hopefully we can both learn a little.

Because really, isn't that what college is about? Well, except for the weekends, which here at the University start on Wednesday afternoon and end on Monday morning.

Anyway, I hope you're reading this and not sweating too much. I hope you're reading this and enjoying the lovely summer breeze. Maybe you're hanging out with friends and drinking some lemonade. Whatever you've got going on, you're doing a good job by just being here. Only the heroes are left now.

Shaun can be insulted or coddled by e-mailing him at [sahayes@bgnet.bgsu.edu](mailto:sahayes@bgnet.bgsu.edu).

## PEOPLE ON THE STREET

*What would you rather be doing this summer instead of going to class?*



NATHAN SCHWIETERMAN  
SENIOR,  
CONSTRUCTION MGMT.  
*"Chasing tail."*



TIFFANY WASHINGTON  
GRAD STUDENT, MENTAL  
HEALTH COUNSELING  
*"Laying on the beach, making money but not working."*



TICEL TERRELL  
JUNIOR,  
EARLY CHILDHOOD ED.  
*"Traveling down south."*



NEAL HAMMERSMITH  
SENIOR, PSYCHOLOGY  
*"Getting a tan on the beach."*

## Weather? More like 'the incorrect news'



MATT SUSSMAN

Opinion Editor

I heard it will not snow in Bowling Green for quite some time. I know this because I watch The Weather Channel.

If you are not a regular viewer, let me fill you in. The Weather Channel is perhaps the most amazing cable channel ever created. Nothing makes me feel more secure than knowing there is a channel out there that will tell me whether or not it will rain in Montana next Thursday.

Every ten minutes it gives you your local forecast, accompanied by the soothing sounds of today's hottest elevator music artists like The Rippingtons and Eddie Reasoner. (To be fair, they do play some Pink Floyd once in a while.)

Before the Weather Channel, the best forecast was our own eyes. We would look up in the sky and see dark clouds. We would then tell our friends, "I think it will rain."

Nowadays, we can instead ask the TV about the weather. The certified weather experts will look up in the sky, see those same dark clouds, and come up with a number in hopes of looking really intelligent. "There is an 80 percent chance of rain," you might hear them say.

Thanks to this incredible cable channel, we are now incapable of walking five feet outside without knowing what the weather may bring. That's right, you better tune into local Channel 40 (or Channel 15 in Toledo) so you can factor the humidity into how long your sleeves should be.

In all honesty, knowing the weather is not so bad. I don't mind watching the local news before I — say — go to a Mud Hens game that night to make sure a menacing cyclone doesn't envelop Fifth Third Field.

I'd look pretty foolish being tossed across the Maumee River by the strong winds, all the while crying, "Why didn't I watch the Weather Channel?"

Wait, this probably won't happen.

Local TV coverage would suggest otherwise. Let's suppose I was watching Letterman after a hard day of working eight hours in a dusty warehouse. Then let's suppose in the middle of that show, Channel 11 cuts away from Letterman to one of their weathermen, and he's telling me about some thunderstorm three counties away from me. Let's also suppose that this isn't a hypothetical and it actually happened.

"So what?" I ask them. It's a thunderstorm. Storms never kill anyone. To support my claim, I did something uncharacteristic of the typical Matt Sussman column and actually looked up some facts.

The University of Pittsburgh Medical Center contends that there were 1,442 thunderstorm-related deaths in the United States from 1994 to 2000. Break out that long division you learned in fourth grade and you'd find that averages out to 180 deaths a year.

That's almost nothing — but certainly nothing that warrants me missing the "Will It Float?" segment on Letterman.

Adding insult to injury, weather coverage isn't even accurate. One of the things I learned in journalism classes is that accuracy is crucial to good reporting. The weather forecast appears in the newspaper and on local news, and very rarely would its accuracy live up to a journalist's standards.

Just last Sunday, the Weather Channel's website ([www.weather.com](http://www.weather.com)) claimed the high temperature in Brooklyn, Mich. would be 71 degrees. Well, it never got hotter than 67 that day. As a result, my toesies endured a brisker wind than I had previously planned.

And even if their educated guess is right, I have to hear it from Toledo's local weatherman, "Blizzard" Bill Spencer. If you never watch NBC24's portly weatherman, Spencer is a man who exudes tendencies people should never exude in public. Then there are voluptuous weather sirens that aren't even trying to be accurate. Jillian Barberie, who stumbles through a sub-par forecast for FOX's "NFL Sunday" football pregame show, barely passes as a weather-giver-out-girl. Judging from her skimpy outfits, I think I have an idea of where her high-pressure system is.

However, those women are few and far between, and most of them only appear in a handful of my dreams at night. Most weathermen are similar to Mr. Bill Spencer, and people like him are serenaded as local celebrities — mainly because cities like Toledo are in dire need of getting laid.

But what about his credentials as a meteorologist? Well, ol' Blizzard Bill says it's going to storm today, with a high of 74 degrees and a low of 62. Maybe I'll give him the benefit of the doubt for once...

Wait a sec — is that snow I see?

Send your comments (or a more reliable weather forecast) to [msussma@bgnet.bgsu.edu](mailto:msussma@bgnet.bgsu.edu).



## Submission Policy

Letters to the Editor should be no longer than 400 words, and guest columns should be between 600 and 800 words. These can be in response to a campus, local or national issue.

## POLICIES

Letters to the Editor and Guest Columns are printed as space on the Opinion Page permits. Additional Letters to the Editor or Guest Columns may be published online. Name, year and phone number should be included for verification

purposes. Personal attacks, unverified information or anonymous submissions will not be printed.

E-mail submissions as an attachment to [thenews@bgnews.com](mailto:thenews@bgnews.com) with the subject line marked "Letter to the Editor" or "Guest Column." Only e-mailed letters and columns will be considered for printing. All letters are subject to review for length and clarity before printing.

Opinion columns do not necessarily reflect the views of The BG News.

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## TODAY'S BAD JOKE

Q: What is the worst time to schedule a dentist appointment?

A: Tooth-hurty.





Mike Metzger BG News

**THE SWING:** Sophomore Abby Habicht takes the game-winning homerun swing during the second game against Miami this weekend during the MAC Championship. The Falcons won the game 4-3.

## Golf team finishes sixth in tourney

By Ryan Autullo  
REPORTER

Two rounds of great golf sandwiched a miserable one en route to a sixth place performance for the Falcons at the MAC tournament, held May 8 at Medallion Club in Westerville, OH.

The Falcons carded a combined 297 on day one and headed into the clubhouse in the fourth position. The success didn't carry over into Friday, however, as the orange and brown exploded for a score of 310, which dropped them into seventh place. The second round of play on Friday was canceled due to inclement weather.

"We played very well the first day, terrible the second, and really well the third," BGSU head

coach Garry Winger said. "Going into the third day I thought we could have finished anywhere from seventh to tenth, but we moved up to sixth. I'm proud of the way we came back that last round after a miserable second day."

Adam Balls concluded his collegiate career with a three round total of 221, good enough for 14th place overall. He was voted on by his competitors as the 2004 MAC Sportsman of the Year. The award was established in 1981 to acknowledge the quality of an individual, both on, and off the golf course. BGSU alumnae Justin Gillham received the award in 2002, while Winger won it himself as a BGSU player in 1994.

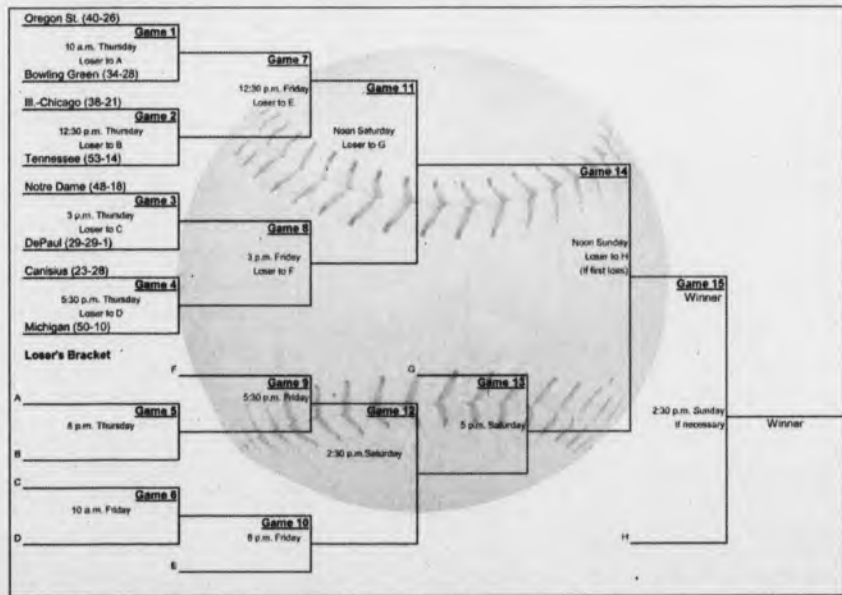
"I'm proud we've had two of

the last three winners," Winger added. "It tells you what type of student athletes we have here at Bowling Green. It's the most prestigious award because it is voted on by other players."

Craig Pickerel (225) finished second on the team with a 19th place finish. Dan McIntyre and Adam Cordes (227) tied for 25th, and Heath Ziegler (237) was 46th.

"We had a very good season, we had eight top five finishes out of 13 tournaments," Winger concluded. "I wish we would have won a tournament, but as a whole we had a nice year. We've got ourselves in a situation where (Craig) Pickerel will be our only senior next year, so we will be relatively young. The summer will be important for practicing and competing."

## Falcons softball NCAA regional bracket



## Habicht's homer lifts Falcons to win

SOFTBALL, FROM PAGE 3

Johnson tossed her third shutout of the tournament in game one. The lone Falcon run came in the bottom of the third when Kari Steigerwald knocked the ball loose from Miami catcher Becca Garcia on a play at the plate. Steigerwald led off the inning with a single up the middle and advanced to second on a groundout by Megan McPherson.

Jeanine Baca then singled to right center, moving Steigerwald to third. Emmy Ramsey laid down a bunt next, allowing Steigerwald to come home.

BGSU wasted little time getting on the board in the second game, scoring runs in the first two innings. Miami erased the deficit in the bottom of the fourth with two runs off Vrabel, who came in for an exhausted Johnson. BGSU broke open the 2-2 tie in the bottom of the fourth when Steigerwald scored on a past ball. After failing to score with bases loaded in the bottom of the fourth, Miami put the game back at par an inning later.

With the score at 3-3, Falcon catcher Abby Habicht scorched a two out solo homerun to left field. It was the sophomore's first collegiate round tripper. The ball appeared to be a popup, possibly trailing foul, but it carried over the fence to give BG a 4-3 advantage. Vrabel then sat down all six batters she saw in the games final two innings to give the Falcons and improbable MAC tournament title. The win advances BGSU to the NCAA tournament held May 20-22.

Eight different regionals will be composed of eight teams.

"We talked about playing each game like it was our last, because it very well could have been," Johnson said. "Everything we

had been doing well separately during the season came together at the right time. This is a once in a lifetime thing, it feels absolute amazing."

"We're a team with a lot of heart."

## Big innings help Falcons in win



Mike Metzger File Photo BG News

**THE BIG D:** Tyler Wasserman waits to scoop up a ground ball during a game against Xavier earlier in the year. He had two RBIs in this weekend's game against Toledo and scored a run.

BASEBALL, FROM PAGE 3

Rocket run in the fifth.

"(Brecht) did a great job of getting players behind in the count," Schmitz said. "The offense came out and gave a nice, comfortable lead for him to work with."

The Falcons were able to take advantage of three UT errors in the game. BGSU scored four runs off two hits in the sixth inning, following an error by UT right fielder Jarrod Resendez. Another error by the Rockets helped rally the Falcons to four more runs in the seventh.

The Rockets homered twice in the final two innings and added four runs, but it was too little too late as BGSU advanced to victory, improving to 26-17 for the season (11-10 in the MAC). UT falls to 19-31 (8-13 MAC).

The Falcons were defeated in a 19-8 loss on Friday's match-up, and again on Saturday, 10-8, despite jumping out to early leads in both games. They are home today against the Rockets at 3 p.m. in Warren Stellar Field.

BG needs to sweep this weekend's home series against Western Michigan to reach the playoffs. Coach Schmitz is hoping to get some of the recent Falcon luck to help his team.

"Maybe we can get a little bit of the softball team's (MAC championships) magic to rub off on us," he said.

## Field events push Falcons

Matt Hawkins  
STAFF REPORTER

After traveling to Oxford, Ohio for the 2004 Outdoor MAC Track and Field Championships, the Bowling Green State University women's track team ran away with a seventh place finish and a total of 40 points for the three-day event from May 13-15.

BGSU Senior Kerri McClung stole the spotlight for the Falcons, breaking a 10 year old BGSU record in the shot put with a 50-02 finish. She finished third in the overall shot put event, breaking the previous record of 50-01.75 set by Nikki Lessig back in 1994. McClung also finished seventh in the hammer throw with mark of 160-01, which was also a season best.

But it was Liz Honegger who decided to destroy her competition in the women's discus

throw, winning the event with a score of 148-05, which was almost six feet farther than second place finisher, Breann Smith from Kent State.

In the 200 meter dash, it was Patrice Beasley from Eastern Michigan who received first place with a time of 24.15, but not far behind was BGSU senior Alicia Taylor who finished in fourth place with a time of 24.72.

The Falcons also received five points from senior Amber Culp and four points from freshman Erica Wilson. Culp finished fourth in the 3,000 meter steeplechase with a time of 10:50.40, while Wilson finished with a distance of 18-10.75 in the long jump.

Also, BGSU junior Melissa Krueger broke her own personal best time in the 1500 meter run, with an eighth place time of

4:35.26, while freshman Andrean Bunko threw a personal best 141-08 and placed fifth in the javelin throw.

Last season the Falcons finished in tenth place in the 2003 MAC Championships.



Mike Metzger File Photo BG News

**Setting records:** Senior Kerri McClung broke a 10-year-old record this weekend in Miami.

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# Iliad conversion pretty but flawed

FLICK, FROM PAGE 1

sequences making the audience really believe he could be the greatest warrior ever. There's no clear protagonist or antagonist in this story and Achilles further blurs this line with his own personal band of warriors including his cousin who experiences war for the first time. Another famous character, Odysseus, played by Sean Bean (Lord of the Rings, Patriot Games) factors into the story as well.

The German born Kruger hopes to launch a movie career in the upcoming romance Wicker Park with Josh Hartnett and National Treasure with Nicholas Cage instead 1000 ships, but doesn't have much to do here

except look the part and feel guilty that her romance has such a high cost. "I've fought many wars in my time. Some I've fought for land, some for power, some for glory. I suppose fighting for love makes more sense than all the rest," says Priam. The romantic elements do add a greater dimension to this war epic, especially scenes between Hector and his wife. The lead male characters all have love to consider during their exploits; even Achilles softens his heart for Briseis, played by Australian actress Rose Byrne, a prominent Trojan woman held prisoner in the Greek war camps.

Prophetic dialogue and some foreshadowing enhance the drama, but the screenplay by David Benioff doesn't blend well

enough with the original source material from Homer's poem the Iliad to make the audience completely lose themselves in the film. Composer James Horner created yet another great musical score only after the first score by Gabriel Yared was scraped. Maybe they'll offer both on the DVD (not likely).

The amazing action, constant battles and important show-downs entertain, but ultimately you are left with the following theme: In war no one wins and "the fighting never ends."

Recommended with reservations (\*\*1/2) and rated R for war violence and sexuality/partial nudity.

## Avon Lake admin. moves to OHSAA

ROSS, FROM PAGE 2

Avon Lake High School, and many students shed tears over the news of his departure.

From the time Smith began working on the district office staff in 1987, she recognized Ross' determination to improve education.

"First and foremost, Dr. Ross is an educator," Smith said. "So he was always aware and on top of what curriculum was being taught in the buildings. He wanted the students to get the best education as possible."

According to Ross, a special relationship with students is important in forming a tight knit community. A close community results in triumphs rather than

trials.

"I don't think there's anything better than working with students to improve their lives," Ross said. "When you work with students and their families, it turns the school into a family, which then turns the community into a family."

Ross has indeed affected many students lives throughout his career. According to officials from Pickerington Local Schools and Avon Lake City Schools, students from both districts have returned to visit Ross after graduation.

Todd Ellis, a retired principal of Avon Lake, became friends with Ross eight years ago. He said Ross' sincerity when he was the principal was genuine, and stu-

dents always knew they had an advocate in Ross.

"I've worked in five districts, and with probably seven superintendents," Ellis said. "I've never been any place where so many kids come back to see a superintendent. He is sincerely loved by his kids."

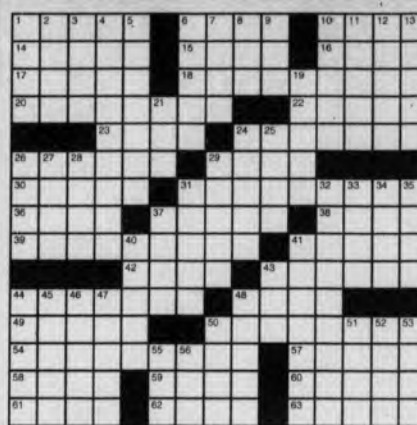
Ross is intent on allowing the lessons he learned at the university to shine through when he takes over as Commissioner of the OHSAA.

"BGSU was extremely instrumental in helping me become who I am," Ross said. "I'll do anything I'm able to do to make people understand what I've learned."

## The Daily Crossword Fix

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- DOWN**
- Synagogue
  - "Citizen"
  - Andes resident
  - Pothole menders
  - Moves on sneaky feet
  - Knocker's reply
  - Highlands hillside
  - Fellows
  - In position
  - Exaggeratedly male
  - Rustic
  - Practice piece
  - Sleeps lightly
  - Plus feature
  - Chapel vow
  - Mudd or Moore
  - At any time
  - Humane org.
  - Cash drawer
  - Israel's airline
  - Old programming language
  - Errand boy
  - "Risky Business" star
  - Fencer's weapon
  - Harvest
  - Russ. and Lat., once
  - Ancient Greek portico
  - Ceased
  - Barcelona snoozes
  - Opie's aunt
  - Behind bars
  - Rush
  - Wipe out
  - Hamlet and Ophelia
  - Defeated rival
  - Spiritual mentor
  - Secret plan
  - Backpacker's shelter
  - Nabisco favorite
  - Musical investments?
  - Tear

### ACROSS

- Circumvent
- Certain PCs
- Classic sitcom equine
- Capital on the Red River
- Shoe form
- Pilot or mobile starter
- Pop open
- City on Monterey Bay
- Reporter's concern
- Hue
- Secret language
- Does some cobbling
- Multi-speaker system
- Small bay
- Stacks
- Energetic people
- Feline weapon
- Sedate
- Uncloses, poetically
- Ready
- Smudge
- Christmas carol
- Arm bulge
- English cheese
- Sinister look
- Luminous emanations
- Approaches
- Some vineyards
- Masonic doorkeeper
- Gaelic tongue
- Calamitous
- United
- Colorants
- Railroad branch line
- Brief fight

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Starting at \$415/Mo.

### MECCA Management Inc.

Stop by the Office at 1045 N. Main St. or check website [www.meccabg.com](http://www.meccabg.com) for complete listing for next year.

## VARSITY LANES

### \$6.00 COLLEGE NIGHT

Who: Any college student

When: Wednesdays & Fridays  
9:00 - 11:00 p.m.

Where: Varsity Lanes - 1033 S. Main St  
Bowling Green OH  
(352-5247)

What: 2 hours of bowling & shoes, slice of pizza & pop

Price: Only \$6.00 per person & drink specials



SERVING  
*Pine Food*  
SINCE 1972

**Sam's RESTAURANT**  
419-353-2277  
163 South Main Street  
Bowling Green

FEATURING  
**FRESH Seafood**  
&  
**PRIME RIB DAILY**

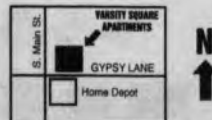
Smoking & Non-Smoking Dining Rooms

### 1-2-3 Bedroom Apartments

**From Only \$465!**

On selected floor plans

- Ground floor ranch style apartment with private entrance
- Patio
- Spacious kitchen
- Laundry facilities
- Pets welcome
- Convenient on-site parking



**FREE HEAT**

**VARSITY SQUARE APARTMENTS**

419-353-7715

### CINEMARK

MAY 19TH - MAY 27TH

### SHOWTIMES

**SHREK 2** (11:15), (11:45), 1:50, 2:05\*, 4:30, 5:00, 7:15, 7:45, [9:30], [10:05]

**TROY** (11:50), 3:20, 7:10

**MEAN GIRLS** (11:20), 1:40\*, 4:40, 7:20, [9:40]

**VAN HELSING** (12:00), 4:00, 7:00, [10:00]

Times in ( ) show on Sat. & Sun. ONLY  
Times in [ ] DO NOT show Mon. thru Wed.  
Times with \* DO NOT show May 19th & 20th

**Woodland TOWNE CENTRE**  
1234 N. Main St. (Rt.25), Bowling Green  
MALL: 419-354-4447  
MOVIE TIMES: 419-354-0558  
[www.woodlandtc.com](http://www.woodlandtc.com)